



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

28 OCT 2002

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Director
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Henry A. Wallace Building
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Vonk:

Re: Approval of Iowa TMDLs

This letter responds to the submission from Iowa dated August 13, 2002, of three Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), which were identified on the 1998 Iowa CWA §303(d) list. The TMDLs submitted include: West Lake (Osceola), Atrazine; Lake Keomah, Siltation; and Crystal Lake, Organic Enrichment. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is also responding to Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) request not to develop TMDL documents for listed aquatic plant/vegetation impairments on both Crystal Lake and Lake Keomah.

The EPA has completed its review of three TMDLs with supporting documentation and information. By this letter the EPA approves the three submitted TMDLs. Enclosed with this letter are Region 7 TMDL Review Forms which summarize the rationale for the EPA's approval of each of TMDL. The EPA believes the separate elements of the TMDLs described in the enclosed forms adequately address the pollutants of concern, taking into consideration seasonal variation and a margin of safety.

Based on information provided regarding both Crystal Lake and Lake Keomah impairments for aquatic plants, the EPA believes management practices put in place by the State of Iowa since the 1998 listing have addressed the impairments. The EPA agrees with IDNR's conclusion that an aquatic plant/vegetation TMDL is not needed for either of these waterbodies. IDNR is proposing these waterbody impairments for delisting during the 2002 CWA §303(d) listing process. This will allow an opportunity for public comments and an official EPA approval/disapproval of the delisting decision.

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The EPA appreciates the thoughtful effort that Iowa has put into these TMDLs. The EPA will continue to cooperate with and assist, as appropriate, in future efforts by Iowa to develop the remaining TMDLs.

Sincerely,



Leo J. Alderman

Director

Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

Enclosures

cc: Marian Maas, IA Dept of Natural Resources, Des Moines, IA
Richard Nelson, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Rock Island, IL